WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1. An adhesive composition which comprises (A) a copolymer of (meth)acrylic esters, (B) a crosslinking agent and (C) a phenol derivative.
- 2. An adhesive composition according to Claim 1, which comprises 0.01 to 10 parts by weight of the phenol derivative of component (C) per 100 parts by weight of component (A).
- 3. An adhesive composition according to Claim 1, wherein the phenol derivative is at least one compound selected from single ring phenol compounds, two-ring phenol compounds, three-ring phenol compounds and four-ring phenol compounds.
- 4. An adhesive composition according to Claim 3, wherein the single ring phenol compounds comprise 2,6-di-tert-butyl-p-cresol, butylhydroxyanisole and stearyl β-(3,5-di-tert-butyl-4-hydroxyphenyl)propionate; the two-ring phenols comprise 4,4'-butylidenebis(3-methyl-6-tert-butylphenol) and 3,6-dioxaoctamethylenebis[3-(3-tert-butyl-4-hydroxy-5-methylphenyl) propionate]; the three-ring phenols comprise 1,1,3-tris(2-methyl-4-hydroxy-5-tert-butylphenylbutane; and the four-ring phenols comprise tetrakis[methylene-3-(3',5'-di-tert-butyl-4'-hydroxyphenyl) propionate].
- 5. An adhesive composition according to Claim 1, which is applied to films of acetyl cellulose.

- 6. An adhesive optical component comprising an optical component and a layer which comprises an adhesive composition described in Claim 1 and is disposed at least on one face of the optical component.
- 7. An adhesive optical component according to Claim 6, wherein the optical component is a polarizing plate or a plate for phase differentiation.
- 8. An adhesive composition which comprises (D) a copolymer of (meth)acrylic esters having a weight-average molecular weight of 500,000 to 2,500,000, (E) a crosslinking agent and (F) a radical scavenger.
- 9. An adhesive composition which comprises (D') a mixture of a copolymer of (meth)acrylic esters having a weight-average molecular weight of 500,000 to 2,500,000 and an oligomer of (meth)acrylic esters having a weight-average molecular weight of 1,000 to 10,000 in amounts such that a ratio of the amounts by weight of the copolymer to the oligomer is in a range of 100:5 to 100:100, (E) a crosslinking agent and (F) a radical scavenger.
- 10. An adhesive composition according to Claim 8, which further comprises (G) a secondary antioxidant.
- 11. An adhesive composition according to Claim 9, which further comprises (G) a secondary antioxidant.
- 12. An adhesive composition according to Claim 10, which comprises 0.1

to 10 parts by weight of the secondary antioxidant of component (G) per 1 part by weight of component (F).

- 13. An adhesive composition according to Claim 11, which comprises 0.1 to 10 parts by weight of the secondary antioxidant of component (G) per 1 part by weight of component (F).
- 14. An adhesive composition according to Claim 8, wherein the radical scavenger is at least one agent selected from antioxidants, amine photostabilizers and polymerication inhibitors.
- 15. An adhesive composition according to Claim 9, wherein the radical scavenger is at least one agent selected from antioxidants, amine photostabilizers and polymerization inhibitors.
- 16. An adhesive composition according to Claim 8, which is used for adhesive optical components.
- 17. An adhesive composition according to Claim 9, which is used for adhesive optical components.
- 18. An adhesive optical component comprising an optical component and a layer which comprises an adhesive composition described in Claim 8 and is disposed at least on one face of the optical component.
- 19. An adhesive optical component comprising an optical component and

a layer which comprises an adhesive composition described in Claim 9 and is disposed at least on one face of the optical component.

- 20. An adhesive optical component according to Claim 18, wherein the optical component is a polarizing plate or a plate for phase differentiation.
- 21. An adhesive optical component according to Claim 19, wherein the optical component is a polarizing plate or a plate for phase differentiation.